

Policy Tips: Waivers & Deferrals What Applicants & Programs Need to Know

Binding Commitment:

Neither applicants nor programs may release each other from the binding commitment.

A waiver or deferral must be obtained from the NRMP.

Request forms and information can be located on the Policies page:

[Waiver/Deferral Forms | NRMP](#)



A waiver may be requested for a variety of reasons

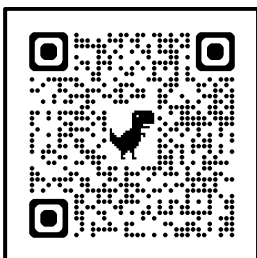
- ❖ **Applicant Ineligibility:**
 - Delayed graduation
 - Visa Issues
 - Inability to meet requirements of Institution/Medical Licensure
 - Credentialing
 - Health and Background screening
- ❖ **Applicant/Program Unanticipated Serious & Extreme Hardship**
- ❖ **Applicant Change of Specialty**
- ❖ **Program Closure/Loss of Accreditation**

In some instances, a deferral may be preferable to a waiver, allowing applicants to

- ❖ **Secure a visa**
- ❖ **Complete medical school requirements**
- ❖ **Complete special projects/research initiatives/additional one-year degree programs**
- ❖ **Prioritize personal matters or hardships in order to clear the way for training**

Important Reminders:

- Applicants cannot apply, interview, or accept another position until granted a waiver/deferral by NRMP.
- Programs cannot discuss, interview for, or offer the matched position to others until a waiver/deferral is granted by NRMP.
- A deferral is not a waiver. A deferral allows for a delayed start to training to the next appointment year and requires mutual agreement between the applicant and program.
- If a waiver is not granted, the applicant and program are expected to honor the binding commitment.



QUESTIONS? Contact NRMP policy by telephone at 202-400-2235 or by email at policy@nrmp.org. Or visit nrmp.org/policies/